Attorney Docket No. 030048028US

Express Mail No. EV336676649US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

N RE APPLICATION OF: MICHAEL S. FOSTER ET AL.

APPLICATION NO.:

10/046,572

FILED:

OCTOBER 26, 2001

FOR: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTERSWITCH

DEADLOCK AVOIDANCE IN A COMMUNICATIONS

NETWORK

EXAMINER: JASON E. MATTIS

ART UNIT: 2665

CONF. NO:

RECEIVED

MAR 3 1 2004

Preliminary Amendment

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of this Request for Continued Examination application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8.